

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 07711 290903Z

13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /136 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7686

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USEC BRUSSELS 757

US NATO 403

S E C R E T MADRID 7711

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, FR

SUBJ: STRAINS IN SPANISH-FRENCH RELATIONS

1. THERE ARE INDICATIONS OF MOUNTING RESENTMENT AMONG SPANISH OFFICIALS AGAINST FRENCH IN WAKE OF ASSASSINATION OF PREMIER CARRERO BLANCO BY ETA TERRORISTS COMING ON TOP OF FRENCH OPPOSITION TO SPANISH CLAIMS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH EC.

2. A RANKING MFA OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT WHILE POLICE IN BASQUE PROVINCES OF SPAIN HAD EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR FRENCH COUNTERPARTS ACROSS THE BORDER, THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF INTERIOR WAS REFUSING TO BECOME INVOLVED IN PURSUIT OF ETA TERRORISTS INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION OF CARRERO. FRENCH AUTHORITIES, HE ADDED, KNEW HAUNTS OF ETA BUT WERE NOT COOPERATING. IT WAS DISGRACEFUL THAT CULPRITS WERE ALLOWED TO BE INTERVIEWED BY FRENCH NEWSPAPERS (MADRID 7647, PARA 10).

3. THE GOS, THE MFA OFFICIAL SAID, WAS ANGRY ALSO AT STAND TAKEN BY FRENCH IN OPPOSING SPANISH POSITION ON AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH EC. IT WAS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MADRID 07711 290903Z

IRONIC, HE NOTED, THAT A COUNTRY LIKE NETHERLANDS WHICH

PUBLICLY OPPOSED CLOSER INTEGRATION OF SPAIN IN WEST EUROPE GAVE PRACTICAL SUPPORT TO SPAIN ON AN ISSUE OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST WHILE FRANCE, WHICH PUBLICLY AFFIRMED ITS SUPPORT FOR SPAIN IN GENERAL TERMS, REFUSED TO TRANSLATE THIS AFFIRMATION INTO PRACTICAL SUPPORT. (SEE ALSO MADRID 7389) THE SPANISH, THE MFA OFFICIAL SAID WITH SOME EMOTION, WERE TIRED OF BEING FED CRUMBS OF LIP SERVICE BY POMPIDOU. IF THE FRENCH DID NOT CHANGE THEIR PRESENT NON-COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, THE GOS WOULD BE OBLIGED TO REACT ACCORDINGLY.

4. SENTIMENTS ALONG FOREGOING LINES INCREASINGLY EXPRESSED IN SPANISH PRESS, AS REPORTED SEPTEL.

RIVERO

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